GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2050
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008
MANAGEMENT ON SAFETY TO AIR TRAFFIC
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there are increased cases of safety lapses at the international airports in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such lapses reported to the Government over the past six months;

(c) whether the Government is examining measures to improve safety of air traffic in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government invited international safety management experts to give their advice in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details alongwith the progress made in this connection so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- During the last six months a total of 10 incidents including 02 ground incidents were reported.

(c) and (d):- Yes, Sir. After examining and analysing the cause of incidents, appropriate actions and remedial measures are taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents. Standard operating procedures (SOP) are regularly formulated and revised depending upon Air Traffic and Safety requirements. The following steps have been taken to enhance safety level and prevent recurrences
(i) modernisation of Air Traffic Services,
(ii) implementation of Safety Management System at various airports to mitigate the risk of accident/ incident,
(iii) implementation of flexible use of airspace for reducing traffic congestion in airspace,
(iv) installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS),
(v) proficiency checks and corrective training to various personnel,
(vi) most of the Indian Air space is brought under the radar coverage for better surveillance. Extended VHF is being provided for better communication in remote areas. Also guidelines for apron discipline have been issued by DGCA.

(e) and (f):- International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme was carried out during 2006 as per ICAO Safety Audit Programme. Also Airports Authority of India (AAI) had conducted two safety management system seminars to create safety awareness among the officials from different organisations viz. AAI, Delhi International Airport Limited, Mumbai International Airport Limited, Bangalore International Airport Limited, various airlines, DGCA in the month of May, 2007. This programme was conducted by the experts from ICAO headquarters, Canada.